

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Department of Health and Human Services to Hold Hearings Feb. 13 Proposed Changes to Regulations**

**Lincoln** – The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services is holding hearings on proposed changes to regulations related to Aid to Dependent Children, Aid to the Aged, Blind or Disabled, the State Disability Program and child welfare, juvenile services, and foster care licensure on Thursday, February 13, in the Nebraska State Office Building in Lincoln, 301 Centennial Mall South, lower level conference room A.

### **Public Hearing at 10:00 a.m. CT**

The Division of Children and Family Services is holding this hearing to accept comments on proposed changes to regulations relating to the Aid to Dependent Children Program. The changes are being made to correspond with new Medicaid eligibility regulations. The proposed changes will:

- Remove obsolete Medicaid provisions;
- Repeal certain chapters;
- Update the Standard of Need;
- Update regulations on withdrawal of applications, treatment of resources, budgeting procedures, and payments;
- Require eligibility redeterminations every six months, rather than once a year;
- Add federally required provisions on indigent immigrants; and
- Remove provisions on the loss of Medicaid after an Employment First sanction.

### **Public Hearing at 11:00 a.m. CT**

The Division of Children and Family Services is holding this hearing to accept comments on proposed changes to regulations relating to the Aid to the Aged, Blind, or Disabled Program and the State Disability Program. The changes correspond with new Medicaid eligibility regulations. The proposed changes will:

- Remove obsolete Medicaid provisions;

- Repeal certain chapters;
- Change references from “mental retardation” to “developmental disabilities” for intermediate care facilities under Legislative Bill 23 (2013);
- Update provisions relating to disability determinations; and
- Update provisions relating to time limits, documentation, and other requirements.

#### **Public Hearing at 1:30 p.m. CT**

The Division of Children and Family Services is holding this hearing to accept comments on proposed changes to regulations related to child welfare, juvenile services, and foster care licensure.

This is a rewrite of current regulations intended to simplify and clarify language and to remove duplicative provisions. The proposed changes will:

- Repeal certain chapters;
- Revise regulations to reflect LB 561 (2013), which reformed the juvenile justice system in Nebraska; and
- Adopt an overview of legal authority and definitions, establish confidentiality and disclosure of information provisions, incorporate foster care licensing and approval provisions, and establish provisions relating to the education of children in DHHS custody.

Anyone may attend and comment at the hearing or submit comments in writing. Written comments will be given the same consideration as oral comments. Written comments must be postmarked or received by 5:00 p.m. CT on the day of the hearings and should be sent to DHHS Legal Services, 301 Centennial Mall South, P.O. Box 95026, Lincoln, NE 68509-5026, fax 402-742-2382, or e-mailed to [DHHS.RulesandRegs@nebraska.gov](mailto:DHHS.RulesandRegs@nebraska.gov)